

RM-10641 is unnecessary, has ready abuse potential and could easily cause confusion to law enforcement personnel unfamiliar with FCC licensing procedures and privileges of those licenses.

A radio owner who values the investment of his equipment would prudently mark his radio with enough information to return the gear if lost or misplaced, such as at a volunteer response to a community crisis, an amateur Field Day exercise or even a skill-building radio foxhunt. However, to "require mobile transmitters used off the licensee home site area must be tagged with the Assigned Call Sign - Owner Name - Address. This required tagging could be inside the normal battery compartment access door. Mobile Radios must be Tagged at the control point, and at the transmitter point" is not only unnecessary, but "requiring" more information than is available in many cases: the classes of "Citizen Band" and "Family Radio", targets of this rule change, are specifically unlicensed and are not issued Call Signs. If a police officer did not know about the FCC policy of issuing Call Signs and found such "required" information missing, the potential for an inappropriate citation (or confiscation of legal equipment) exists. In this case, both law enforcement and public lose time and resources to conflicting requirements.

A second potential abuse exists with the tying of identified equipment exclusively to its operator: how can equipment be lent or borrowed without violation of requirements? This not only has the uncomfortable and styming effect in a community crisis response (each amateur must provide and operate only his own radio), but also has the subtle ramification of: is a legally licensed operator able to use club-owned gear which does not bear his/her own Call Sign?

The three-year mandatory paperwork burden on equipment sellers is an unfunded imposition on business resources, especially in these difficult economic times. However, a more alarming situation exists, when "Any Retail Vendor may request the local police to look into if he has a suspicious overview that the use of the radios may not be compliance with Federal or Local Law's". Inuendo is no basis to require the start of an investigation. The fact that law enforcement is brought in, not at the level of a "tip", but by using a federal agency rule, gives the situation an authority that should not exist.

-- Mark Geleskie, KM3G